

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 USIA-12 ARA-10 /032 W

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R 281140Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4138

UNCLAS PORT LOUIS 0953

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, MP (REGIS FANCHETTE)

SUBJECT: EDX: TRAVEL TO US OF DIRECTOR GOM OFFICE OF TOURISM

1. REGIS FANCHETTE, CHIEF OFFICIAL IN MINEXTAFF CONCERNED WITH TOURISM, LEFT MAURITIUS THIS WEEK FOR TWENTY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OFFICIAL TOURIST ORGANIZATIONS AT CARACAS. THIS ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD BETWEEN OCTOBER 1-10.

2. FANCHETTE HAD EARLIER INFORMED EMBASSY HE MIGHT ATTEND THIS CONFERENCE, AND HAD NOTED HIS HOPE TO STOP OFF IN US (WHERE HE HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY VISITED) ON RETURN FROM VENEZUELA. HE INFORMED US SEPTEMBER 26, HOWEVER, THAT HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS ONLY THAT DAY FROM PRIME MINISTER TO BREAK TRIP IN US, BUT ONLY FOR PERIOD OF APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK. FANCHETTE STATED REALIZED IT WAS VERY SHORT NOTICE, BUT WONDERED IF SOME SORT OF GRANT MIGHT BE AUTHORIZED THAT WOULD ENABLE HIM MAKE CONTACT WITH TOURISM BODIES IN US.

3. FANCHETTE WILL NOT, OF COURSE, HAVE AMPLE TIME IN US FOR TYPE OF PARTIAL GRANT USUALLY AWARDED. HE IS, HOWEVER INFLUENTIAL OFFICIAL IN AN AREA OF ECONOMY THAT IS IMPORTANT TO MAURITIUS AT THIS TIME. CONSEQUENTLY, EMBASSY INQUIRES WHETHER HE MIGHT BE BRIEFLY PROGRAMMED, POSSIBLY PICKING HIM UP AT SOME PORT OF ENTRY, SUCH AS NEW ORLEANS OR MIAMI. BULK HIS PROGRAM COULD BE DEVOTED TO DISCUSSIONS WITH PRIVATE TOURIST ORGANIZATIONS, AMERICAN EXPRESS, ETC. HE WOULD BE AVAILABLE DURING PERIOD OCTOBER 11-18.

4. FANCHETTE IS, IN ADDITION TO HIS OFFICIAL DUTIES, MAURITIAN POET OF SOME DISTINCTION (IN BOTH FRENCH AND ENGLISH). HE IS UNCLASSIFIED

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ALSO FORMER CLASSMATE AND CLOSE FRIEND OF MAURITIAN EMBASSY FIRST

SECRETARY IN WASHINGTON.

5. IF IT IS POSSIBLE TO WORK ANYTHING OUT, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE
NECESSARY TO NOTIFY FANCHETTE VIA AMEMBASSY CARACAS THROUGH HIS
ADDRESS IN VENEZUELA.

HOTEL TAMANACO

AVENIDA DE PRINCIPAL DE LOS MERCEDES

CARACAS

6. BIOGRAPHIC INFO CAN BE FURNISHED SEPARATELY IF THERE ANY POS-
SIBILITIES FOR THIS PARTIAL GRANT.

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